

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 299299

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/C:DWCOX;ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN:MMS

APPROVED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

ARA/AND - FJDEVINE (SUBS)

USIA/ILA - FBECCHETTI (SUBS)

ARA/PPC - KMARSHALL (SUBS)

SCA - JDEWITT (SUBS)

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R 090217Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

INFO AMCONSUL BARRANQUILLA

UNCLAS STATE 299299

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OGEN, CO

SUBJECT: REOPENING OF CONSULATE IN BARRANQUILLA

1. YOU MAY IF YOU WISH USE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME IN ANY PUBLIC RELEASES OR CEREMONIES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REOPENING OF THE CONSULATE IN BARRANQUILLA.

2. BEGIN TEXT. THE REOPENING OF THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE IN BARRANQUILLA IS A HAPPY AND IMPORTANT OCCASION. IT REAFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE WE IN THIS COUNTRY ATTACH TO OUR RELATIONS WITH COLOMBIA -- WITH ALL OF COLOMBIA. IT REFLECTS THE INTENSE LEVEL OF INTERCHANGE -- COMMERCIAL, CULTURAL AND AMONG OUR PEOPLES -- BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC COAST OF COLOMBIA AND MY COUNTRY. AND IT RETURNS AN OFFICIAL UNITED STATES PRESENCE TO BARRANQUILLA WHERE FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING HAVE ALWAYS BEEN BYWORDS.

THE OCCASION IS PARTICULARLY PLEASING TO ME PERSONALLY.

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I BEGAN MY DIPLOMATIC CAREER MORE THAN 20 YEARS AGO IN

THIS CONSULATE IN THIS CITY. MY WIFE AND I STILL RECALL
WITH AFFECTION AND GRATITUDE THE WARMTH AND SYMPATHY WE
FOUND ON ALL SIDES IN BARRANQUILLA. I ONLY REGRET THAT IT
WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE WITH YOU AT THE OFFICIAL

REOPENING. BUT I DO SEND THE VERY BEST WISHES AND REGARDS
ON MY OWN BEHALF AND THAT OF MY COLLEAGUES IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE. END TEXT.

ROBINSON

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NNN

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